

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4 have been cancelled.

1-4. (Cancelled)

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5 5. (Currently amended) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device comprising:

 a pulse generator ~~adapted~~ configured to interact respectively with ventricles of a heart to deliver stimulation pulses to each of the ventricles;

10 a control unit connected to the pulse generator ~~to operate~~ that operates the pulse generator to emit a stimulation pulse to a first-stimulated ventricle, followed by a VV time delay, followed by a stimulation pulse to a second-stimulated ventricle;

 an evoked response detector ~~adapted~~ configured to interact with the
15 ventricles and having independent, first and second ventricular sensing channels ~~to~~ that detect ventricular evoked response in the respective ventricles, said evoked response detector searching for an evoked response following delivery of a stimulation pulse to said first-stimulated ventricle in an evoked
20 response detection time window;

 said control unit setting said VV time delay to be shorter than said evoked response detection time window; and

 said evoked response detector closing said evoked response detecting time window, or discarding detections therein, in response to
25 emission of the stimulation pulse to the second-stimulated ventricle during said evoked response detection time window following said first-stimulated ventricle.

 6. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5, comprising an inhibiting unit that inhibits
30 stimulation of said second-stimulated ventricle in response to detection, by said evoked response detector, of a sensed intrinsic cardiac event in said second-stimulated ventricle.

7. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said control unit sets said VV time delay to be less than 40 msec.

5 8. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 7 wherein said control unit sets said VV time delay in a range between 10 and 30 msec.

9. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said evoked response detector sets said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be
10 in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Currently amended) A method for biventricular cardiac stimulation comprising the steps of:

15 with an implanted [[a]] pulse generator, automatically delivering
~~adapted to interact respectively with ventricles of a heart to~~
~~deliver stimulation pulses~~ respectively ~~to each of the ventricles~~
~~of a heart;~~

automatically controlling operation of ~~a control unit connected to the~~
~~pulse generator to operate~~ the pulse generator to emit a
20 stimulation pulse to a first-stimulated ventricle, followed by a VV
time delay, followed by a stimulation pulse to a second-
stimulated ventricle;

with an implanted evoked response detector ~~adapted to interact with~~
~~the ventricles and~~ having independent, first and second
25 ventricular sensing channels, automatically detecting ~~to detect~~
ventricular evoked response in the respective ventricles, ~~said~~
~~evoked response detector~~ by searching for an evoked response
following delivery of a stimulation pulse to said first-stimulated
ventricle in an evoked response detection time window;

30 with said control unit, setting said VV time delay to be shorter than said
evoked response detection time window; and

automatically causing said evoked response detector ~~closing~~ to close said evoked response detecting time window, or ~~discarding~~ to discard detections therein, in response to emission of the stimulation pulse to the second-stimulated ventricle during said evoked response detection time window following said first-stimulated ventricle.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~[[5]]~~ 10, comprising ~~an inhibiting unit that inhibits~~ stimulation of said second-stimulated ventricle in response to detection, by said evoked response detector, of a sensed intrinsic cardiac event in said second-stimulated ventricle.

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

12. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~5~~ wherein said control unit sets 10 comprising setting said VV time delay to be less than 40 msec.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~7~~ wherein said control unit sets 12 comprising setting said VV time delay in a range between 10 and 30 msec.

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~5~~ wherein said evoked response detector sets 13 comprising setting said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

Add the following new claims:

15. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 comprising setting said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

16. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10 comprising setting said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be in a range between 40 and 100 msec.